

and talking about her faith and the importance of knowing Jesus Christ.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Lillian and wishing her a very happy 100th birthday.

REMEMBERING MR. JOHNNY
SIMMONS

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2022

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Mr. Johnny Simmons, a lifelong servant to others and longtime resident of Oakland County, who passed away on August 29, 2022. As Mr. Simmons's family reflected upon their loved one's life, they affectionately recall him as a faithful, loving, and kind person to all. While Mr. Simmons will be missed by the many who had the honor of knowing him, there is no doubt that these qualities have been impressed upon those around him and continue to positively influence the community.

On September 4, 1936, Mr. Johnny B. Simmons was born in Highland, Mississippi, to Albert Simmons and Annie Bell Dantzler and was raised by a "village" of Simmons that cared for him as he grew. Early in his life, Mr. Simmons moved from his small community of "Sun-Side" in Mississippi to the South Side of Chicago, Illinois. As Mr. Simmons was earning his high school education, racial discrimination plagued the City of Chicago. He attended an integrated grammar school before then attending and graduating from the racially segregated DuSable High School.

Following completion of his studies, Mr. Simmons served his country for four years with the United States Marine Corp and was honorably discharged in 1961. Shortly after his return to civilian life, Mr. Simmons married the love of his life, Charlene "Chuck" Simmons. Years later, he was quoted saying, "My memory of love will be of Chuck Simmons. I thank God for the many outstanding years we shared." Their commitment was lifelong, enjoying 61 years of marriage together. At the age of 26, Mr. Simmons was also united with his father in what was described as "love at first sight," rounding out his young family.

While in Illinois, Mr. Simmons, was inducted into the Chicago police force. 1968 was a time of significant social change as black Americans continued to experience devastating racial discrimination throughout the country. Mr. Simmons witnessed the effects of this injustice as he performed his duties and was present for the unrest that resulted from the assassina-

tion of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1968. After his time as an officer in Chicago, the family relocated to make Michigan their new home.

Mr. Simmons became active in his new community, joining the Southside Seventh-day Adventist Church and maintained his service to the church for the remainder of his life. He proudly served as the patriarch of his beloved family in Pontiac, Michigan. Helping others and contributing to his community was a way of life for him, and many were fortunate to benefit from his selfless acts.

Many are fortunate to carry on Mr. Simmons' wisdom, including his children, grandchildren, and the many who respect Mr. Simmons' life serving others. Continuing this legacy are three outstanding children—Jackie, Jon Eric, and Kelli Lyn. He also earned two "bonus daughters" with Jon Eric's marriage to his wife Michelle, welcoming her sisters, Paula and Candace, to the family and then gained an additional son with Kelli's marriage to Ladon. He will be truly missed by all.

Mr. Simmons' friends and family bid him farewell at his funeral on Friday, September 9th, at the Troy Seventh-day Adventist Church, following visitation services on September 8th. Mr. Simmons was given the great honor of receiving a military burial at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan, on September 12th, a fitting recognition to his years with the Marine Corps.

Madam Speaker, it is a great honor to recognize the life of Mr. Johnny Simmons today, and I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating his numerous contributions to our Nation. Mr. Simmons truly has lived a life worth celebrating and is owed a thanks for his life of service.

HONORING RICK ZIEGENFUSS,
CITY ADMINISTRATOR OF HOL-
LISTER, MO

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2022

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rick Ziegenfuss, the City Administrator of Hollister, MO.

Born and raised in Iowa, Rick enlisted in the U.S. Army at the age of 20 in 1970. He underwent basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood in Missouri, before moving on to advanced individual training with the 11th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division at Ft. Carson Colorado, he was then assigned to the 1st Battalion 133rd Infantry in unit supply. In 1974 he graduated with honor from Infantry Officer Candidate School

at Ft. Benning, Georgia. He served as an anti-armor platoon leader and a rifle platoon leader with Company C, 1 Battalion 133d Infantry. He then was assigned as the Battalion Personnel Officer. He went on to command Company C 1st Battalion 133rd Infantry and later served as the S3 Operations Officer for the 2nd Brigade, 34th Infantry Division. He then attended the Army's Command and General Staff College at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas where he graduated with honors. He commanded the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized) 133rd Infantry, he also completed his BA Degree in Personnel Management from Mary Crest College. From there he became the State Operations and Training Officer for the State Area Command for Iowa. He was discharged from the military in 1992 after 22 years of service, retiring at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. After the military, he started his own environmental company which he later sold to his partner. He then moved from Des Moines, Iowa to the Ozarks and began a career as a commercial printer. He did that for 10 years and was the Vice President of Operations for the Bech-LaRue Corporation. In 2002 he went to work for the City of Hollister as City Administrator, a position he remains in to this day.

Rick has been actively involved in the local community since moving to the Ozarks. He has served on many boards including Branson Veterans Task Force from 1995 to 2001, Downtown Branson Main Street Association from 2001 to 2002, Freedom Quest Corp from 1999 to 2001, Hollister Area Chamber of Commerce from 1999 to 2003, Campaign Committee Tri-Lakes United Way since 2011, Taney County Transportation Advisory Board since 2011, Public Sector co-chair Ozarks Regional Economic Partnership in 2007, Chairman of Tri-Lakes United Way Campaign in 2012, Chairman of the Board for the Taney County Partnership from 2012 to 2013, Chairman of the Tri-Lakes Bio Solids Partnership from 2010 to 2014 and Chairman of the Air Service Development Committee—Branson Regional Airport since 2014.

For his countless efforts, he has been recognized by the Branson Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce, the Ozark Mountain Family YMCA, the Branson Veterans Taskforce and the Citizens of Hollister, MO, to name a few.

Madam Speaker, after nobly serving his country in the military, Rick Ziegenfuss moved to the Missouri Ozarks and has made this his home. Since coming here, he has become actively involved in a vast number of charities and local organizations and has served his local community as City Administrator for 20 years. His work is laudable, and I am honored to recognize his continued service to the local community today.